

REMARKS

1. *Informalities*

Claim Cancellation. Claims 1-18 and 43-46 have been cancelled from the application. By cancelling these claims, applicant is not conceding that these are unpatentable over the prior art.

Allowable Subject Matter. Applicant appreciates the indication of allowed claims 19-42.

2. *Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 112*

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In response, claim 13 has been canceled from the application.

3. *Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 102*

Claims 1-3, 6-14, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 1902564 to Mabey (hereinafter referred to as "Mabey").

In response, claims 1-3, 6-14 and 18 have been canceled from the application. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 be withdrawn from consideration.

4. *Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 103*

Claims 4, 5, 15-17, and 43-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mabey in view of United States Patent No. 1589850 to Haskell (hereinafter referred to as "Haskell"). In response, claims 4, 5, 15-17 and 43-46 have been canceled from the application. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the claims of the application be reconsidered and that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the deficiencies in the application have been corrected and that the proposed claims are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the prior art references cited by the Examiner. As such, Applicant believes that the application is now in a condition for allowance, and action to that end is respectfully requested.

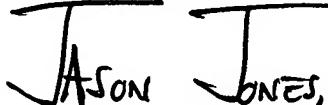
If any impediments to the allowance of this application for patent remain after the above amendments and remarks are entered, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone conference with the undersigned attorney of record.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 20-0100.

DATED this 26th day of June, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

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